

CLAIMS:

We claim:

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1. A method comprising:  
generating an asset record in a management system database when an order for  
3 components of an asset corresponding to said asset record are ordered; and  
4 tagging said asset when deployable with an asset identification (ID), said asset ID  
5 uniquely referring to said asset record.
  - 1 2. A method according to claim 1 further comprising:  
2 generating a purchase order for said components, said purchase order having  
3 characteristics of said asset that could be associated with said asset record in said  
4 database.
  - Sub A2*  
1 3. A method according to claim 2 wherein generating includes:  
2 determining if an existing asset template can be used in generating said purchase  
3 order;  
4 if an existing asset template cannot be used, then creating a new asset template for  
5 said asset; and  
6 utilizing one of said existing asset template and new asset template in said  
7 generating said purchase order.
  - 1 4. A method according to claim 2 further comprising:  
2 transmitting said purchase order to a supplier;  
3 waiting for ordered components to be received; and  
4 if any ordered components are received, then reading information related to said  
5 received components from the packages containing said received components.

1 5. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:  
2 storing said information into said management database.

1 6. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:  
2 determining if said received components are sufficient for an asset to be classified  
3 as deployable.

1 7. A method according to claim 6 wherein determining includes:  
2 if said asset requires assembly, determining whether all components for assembly  
3 of an asset have been received; and  
4 if said asset requires assembly, and if all components have not been received, then  
5 placing said received components in storage.

1 8. A method according to claim 7 wherein if said asset requires assembly,  
2 and if all components have been received, then assembling said received components  
3 such that it constitutes a deployable asset.

1 9. A method according to claim 1 wherein tagging includes:  
2 generating said asset ID as a unique identification within a designated area  
3 containing many different assets.

1 10. A method according to claim 1 wherein said tagging further includes  
2 generating a sticker incorporating said asset ID therein; and  
3 affixing said sticker to said deployable asset.

1 11. A method according to claim 10 wherein said sticker is a bar-code  
2 readable sticker.

1 12. A method according to claim 1 further comprising:  
2 updating the state in said asset management database of said asset to 'deployable'.

1 13. A method according to claim 9 wherein said designated area is in part or in  
2 whole a data center.

1 14. A method according to claim 1 wherein configuration information for said  
2 asset is stored in its asset record.

1 15. A system comprising:  
2 a management system database configured to store an asset record when an order  
3 for components of an asset corresponding to said asset record are ordered, said asset  
4 record indexed by a unique asset identification (ID), said asset ID uniquely referring to  
5 said asset within a facility; and

6 a connection mechanism coupling said management system database to various  
7 nodes located in said facility, and coupling said management system database to an  
8 inventory database;

✓ 1 16. A system according to claim 15 wherein said facility is a data center.

✓ 1 17. A system according to claim 15 wherein said connection mechanism  
2 includes network connectivity.

✓ 1 18. A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset record includes  
2 configuration information regarding said asset.

✓ 1 19. A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset record includes  
— 2 purchase order information regarding said components of said asset.

ce 17 1 20. A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset record includes <sup>status</sup> state  
2 information regarding said asset.

✓ 1 21. A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset is tagged with a sticker  
2 containing said asset ID.

some  
1- 1 22. An article comprising a computer readable medium having instructions  
2 stored thereon which when executed cause:  
3 generating an asset record in a management system database when an order for  
4 components of an asset corresponding to said asset record are ordered; and  
5 tagging said asset when deployable with an asset identification (ID), said asset ID  
uniquely referring to said asset record.

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contd 1 23. An article according to claim 22 which further causes:  
2 generating a purchase order for said components, said purchase order having  
3 characteristics of said asset that could be associated with said asset record in said  
4 database.

1 24. An article according to claim 23 wherein generating includes:  
2 determining if an existing asset template can be used in generating said purchase  
3 order;  
4 if an existing asset template cannot be used, then creating a new asset template for  
5 said asset; and

6 utilizing one of said existing asset template and new asset template in said  
7 generating said purchase order.

1 25. An article according to claim 22 which further causes:  
2 transmitting said purchase order to a supplier;  
3 waiting for ordered components to be received; and  
4 if any ordered components are received, then reading information related to said  
5 received components from the packages containing said received components.

1 26. An article according to claim 25 which further causes:  
2 storing said information into said management database.

3 27. An article according to claim 25 which further causes:  
4 determining if said received components are sufficient for an asset to be classified  
5 as deployable.

1 28. An article according to claim 27 wherein determining includes:  
2 if said asset requires assembly, determining whether all components for assembly  
3 of an asset have been received; and  
4 if said asset requires assembly, and if all components have not been received, then  
5 placing said received components in storage.

1 29. An article according to claim 28 wherein if said asset requires assembly,  
2 and if all components have been received, then assembling said received components  
3 such that it constitutes a deployable asset.

1 30. An article according to claim 22 wherein tagging includes:  
2 generating said asset ID as a unique identification within a designated area  
3 containing many different assets.

2 31. An article according to claim 30 wherein said tagging further includes:  
3 generating a sticker incorporating said asset ID therein; and  
affixing said sticker to said deployable asset.

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